

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 VIENNA 06051 211825Z

73

ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OPR-02 CCO-00 /021 W

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R 211326Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9160

UNCLAS VIENNA 6051

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN

SUBJECT: ABSENTEE VOTING ASSISTANCE: USE OF POUCH

REF: 76 STATE A-2779

1. ALTHOUGH DEPT. HAS APPARENTLY RESOLVED TO ITS SATISFACTION IMPLICATIONS USE OF DIPLOMATIC POUCH BY AMERICAN CITIZENS NOT ENTITLED TO USE OF THESE FACILITIES, WE HAVE FURTHER QUESTION REGARDING OUR TRANSMISSION OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS AND RELATED MATERIALS.

2. STATE OF CALIFORNIA, FOR EXAMPLE, REQUIRES ABSENTEE VOTER TO BEAR COST OF POSTAGE FOR RETURN OF ABSENTEE BALLOT. HOW WILL USC WHO WOULD NORMALLY USE INTNRNATIONAL MAIL, AVAIL HIMSELF OF POUCH WHEN HE HAS NO PRACTICAL ACCESS TO U.S.P.S. FACILITY TO PURCHASE REQUISITE POSTAGE STAMPS FOR U.S. DOMESTIC MAIL? FEW CONSULAR SECTIONS STAFFED TO BECOME DE FACTO BRANCH POST OFFICE WHICH WOULD REQUIRE ORDER, PURCHASE, SALE OF POSTAGE STAMPS AND RELATED BOOKKEEPING. ON OTHER HAND, DOES DEPT. HAVE IN MIND THAT BALLOTS BE TRANSMITTED IN U.S. UNDER DEPT.'S "POSTAGE AND FEES PAID" STAMP? WE WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY CLARIFICATION IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ACCURATE INFORMATION TO POTENTIAL LOCAL VOTERS.

3. FPCAS ORDERED MARCH 1, 1976 FROM GSA REGION II HAVE NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED. TRINKA

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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